

Readings

Scripture

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- Acts 2:42-47 (English Standard Version)

Reflection

Valley Springs Identity: Valley Springs is an intergenerational community of grace, learning to love God and serve our world together.

Our Mission: Our identity is lived out by connecting people to the extraordinary life found in Jesus – one person, one family, one community at a time.

Our Prayer: That Jesus would use us to create a gospel movement of disciples making disciples where they live, work, and play.

Sermon Outline

The Experience
Acts 2:42-47

The Rooted Experience
Brad Anderson

The life of Jesus Christ creates unique communities of disciples rooted in grace that worship their risen Lord and find themselves compelled to give that life away...
(Acts 2:42-47)

Several questions arise from this statement...

What does it mean to be rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ? (Colossians 2:6-7)

- To receive Christ Jesus as Lord in all areas of life...
 - To follow Christ Jesus as Lord in all areas of life...
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What is a disciple? (Matthew 28:16-20)

- A disciple is: someone who gets the life of Christ, experiences the life of Christ with others, and obeys Jesus' command to give the life away.
 - This occurs in a dynamic that we have called: "Learning to Love"
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What might the outcomes of The Rooted Experience look like in your life?

(2 Corinthians 5:14-15)

- The Rooted Experience can be illustrated visually:
 - Get the Life (Worship)
 - Experience the Life (Community)
 - Give the Life Away (Mission)
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Reflection Questions (taken in part from the Serendipity Study Bible for Groups)

- How would you describe your journey of faith? At the start? Moving right along? Experiencing a full restart? Needing a jump start?
- Reading Acts 2:42-47, what stands out to you? Can you observe worship? Community? Mission?
- How is your church fellowship similar to and different from the fellowship described in these verses? How does this make you feel? What could you do to help your church be more like this? How will this example affect how you pray for your church?
- Reading Colossians 2:6-7, what does "rooted and built up" imply to you? Is it possible for Christ to be the first step and something else the second step in the Christian life?